

MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

5 AUGUST 1981

Libya

The Libyan representative to the United Nations presented a note to the president of the UN Security Council concerning the hostile attitude of the United States toward Libya. The note, broadcast textually by Voice of the Arab Homeland radio, said the U.S. readiness to give military aid to African states allegedly threatened by Libya or in proximity to it, the escalation of a U.S. propaganda campaign against Libya and the announcement of a plot to carry out subversive acts in Libya, including the physical liquidation of Col Mu'ammarr al-Qadhafi, are indicative of "premeditated, hostile intentions."

Israel

Jerusalem television reported that representatives of the Likud, National Religious Party, Agudat Yisra'el and TAMI signed an agreement on the composition of a new coalition government in Prime Minister Menahem Begin's office in Jerusalem. It also reported that among the members of the new government, whose names will be put before the Knesset on 5 August for approval, are Simha Ehrlich as deputy prime minister, Yitzhaq Shamir as foreign minister, Ari'el Sharon as defense minister, Yosef Burg as interior and religious affairs minister and Mordekhai Tzipori as communications minister.

Egypt

MENA reported that at a press conference at the Egyptian Embassy in London, President Anwar as-Sadat described the recent cease-fire between the Israelis and the Palestinians as a turning point in the Middle East affairs. He said it should be followed by mutual recognition by the Israelis and Palestinians, which would pave the way for an overall settlement. Turning to his scheduled talks in Washington with President Reagan, As-Sadat said he will ask that the United States continue to play the role of a full partner in the Middle East negotiations and that it change its stance on contacts with the PLO in view of the cease-fire between Israel and the PLO. MENA later reported that President as-Sadat concluded his 2-day official visit to Britain and left London for the United States.

Iran

Majlis Approves Bahonar Appointment--Tehran radio reported that in its 5 August open session, the Majlis voted to approve the appointment of Islamic Republican Party leader Mohammad Javad Bahonar as prime minister.

Overseas Mission Seized--According to DPA, the Iranian Consulate in Berlin was occupied the morning of 4 August by approximately 30 Iranian students in protest against the executions in Iran and at the same time in support of the Bani-Sadr-backed national resistance council. DPA reported that FRG police cleared the building after an hour. Later Tehran radio reported that the FRG ambassador to Tehran was summoned to the Iranian Foreign Ministry to explain the attack on the consulate, as well as earlier attacks on the Iranian Embassy in Bonn and the Iranian mosque in Hamburg. The radio mentioned that the FRG police were noticeably late in arriving at the scene of the incident on 4 August and said this matter is being investigated. AFP reported that Iranian students have seized the Iranian Embassy in Ottawa and are holding six employees as hostages.

Rafsanjani Majlis Speech--Tehran radio reported that, in a speech to an open session of the Majlis, Majlis Speaker Hashemi-Rafsanjani claimed that former President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr was responsible for the 3 August bombings in Tehran and Kermanshahr. According to the radio, he quoted Bani-Sadr as saying that groups are at work in Iran to oust Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni's allies so that the Iranian Government will fall into the hands of individuals like himself. Rafsanjani said the bombings were a form of "blind terrorism" unprecedented in the world. Turning to the French Government's decision to grant Bani-Sadr political asylum, the Majlis speaker said that not even "Mafia and gangster logic" can justify this decision of the French Government, which purports to be Socialist and a defender of human rights.

Opposition Contacts--The 3 August edition of the London-based ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT reported that members of the Iranian opposition supporting the late shah held talks in Cairo recently with the shah's son, Reza Pahlavi, during which the possibility of initiating a dialogue with former President Bani-Sadr was raised. The newspaper said there was a clear division over this issue but the general inclination was to postpone any steps in this direction on the grounds that such a move might entail losing the opportunity for rapprochement with former Prime Minister Shapur Bakhtiar.

Majlis Deputies Attacked--Tehran radio reported that on 5 August Majlis deputy from Tehran Hasan Ayat was assassinated by "counterrevolutionaries" in front of his home. It also said that on 4 August, the Majlis deputy from Urumiyeh escaped an assassination attempt by a group of "mercenary agents and foreign hirelings."

Iran-Iraq Conflict

An Iranian Armed Forces Joint Staff communique, broadcast by Tehran radio, claimed that Iranian forces set ablaze Iraqi oil installations in Al-Faw and Ziyadiyah. It also said some of Abadan's oil installations were damaged by Iraqi artillery and mortar fire. An Iraqi Armed Forces General Command communique, carried by Baghdad radio, claimed that an Iraqi forward unit clashed with Iranian soldiers in the Dezful region and forced them to retreat after killing 137 men. It also said more than 180 Iranian soldiers were killed in a separate engagement in the same area.

Lebanese Crisis

Military Situation--The clandestine Voice of Palestine radio reported that on 4 August Israeli gunboats opened machinegun fire on Ar-Rashidiyah and Ra's al-'Ayn. Later, it said, Israeli vehicles were seen moving to Al-Qualy'ah and Marj 'Uyun. Meanwhile, Beirut radio reported that Israeli military aircraft flew over Tripoli and the Al-Baddawi and Nahr al-Barid Palestinian refugee camps on 4 August. It claimed that the security situation in Tripoli remains tense because of a clash between two local organizations that resulted in a number of casualties. Voice of Lebanon radio reported that the Sodeco gate in Beirut remains closed because of sniper fire and shelling in the area.

Al-Wazzan on U.S. Plan--According to Beirut radio, Lebanese Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazan claimed that he had no information about an alleged U.S. plan to expand the UN force's area of operations in southern Lebanon.

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ZIAUL HAQ INTERVIEWED ON DEFENSE, FOREIGN POLICIES

GFO41345 Karachi DAWN in English 30 Jul 81 p 5

[Excerpts] The president, Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq, has dwelt at some length on the postulates of Pakistan's foreign and defense policies in a recent interview to Mr Rajendra Sareen of the Indian weekly SUNDAY. The following is the text of the interview:

Q: What do you feel about the security environment in southwest Asia and the Gulf region, with particular reference to the rivalry among the superpowers?

A: One should distinguish between events that provoke superpower rivalry and those that are its product. Roughly speaking, the problem in southwest Asia, by which I suppose you mean Afghanistan, would belong in the first category, while that in the Gulf region would fall in the second category. It is so because, apart from its strategic importance, the Gulf is the main source of energy for the world and no one superpower would like exclusive access to it by the other superpower. It is this inherent rivalry which brings the two superpowers in confrontation in this region. Afghanistan is not such a source of energy, though its strategic value, like that of Pakistan, has a larger sweep than merely providing a route for the oil-producing Gulf region.

The Soviet Union's military intervention in Afghanistan is a strategic move of far-reaching consequences inviting an immediate response from the other superpower. The intrusion of Soviet power into Afghanistan and the exit of U.S. influence from Iran following the overthrow of the shah have given a double strategic advantage to the Soviet Union. The Iran-Iraq conflict brings the rivalry between the superpowers into sharper focus. Further west this rivalry is reflected in the Arab-Israeli conflict and the Lebanese crisis which is its product. As in the case of the Israeli occupation of the lands of the Arabs, so in the case of the presence of Soviet forces in Afghanistan, we have, as an Islamic and non-aligned country, taken our position on the basis of fundamental principles.

To confine myself to our immediate neighborhood, we are seeking a negotiated settlement of the Afghanistan crisis which would ensure the withdrawal of Soviet forces from Afghanistan, the creation of conditions for the safe and honorable return of the refugees to their homeland, the maintenance of the independence and nonaligned character of Afghanistan, and the restoration of the Afghans' right to choose a government of their liking.

Similarly, as a member of the Islamic peace committee, we are exerting ourselves to bring about a peaceful settlement of the Iran-Iraq conflict which is proving so ruinous to the two countries with which we have brotherly relations and whose losses we consider as our losses.

The qualitative change in the security environment of our region and, in particular, of Pakistan, was expected by us to be seen by India as a development of common concern opening new opportunities for closer understanding and cooperation. These expectations have not been fulfilled.

Q: Foreign Minister Agha Shahi recently spoke of Pakistan facing a two-front situation as a result of India and Afghanistan having treaties of friendship with the Soviet Union. This formulation apparently assumes that India and the Soviet Union are in collusion with each other to attack Pakistan. How does one reconcile this formulation with the fact that throughout the 1970's India has consistently refused to become part of Mr Brezhnev's Asian security plan? More specifically, India has taken a categorical stand on the issue of Soviet troops in Afghanistan. Mrs Gandhi's statements during Mr Brezhnev's visit to Delhi in December 1980 and, earlier, Foreign Minister Narasimha Rao's statement during his visit to Moscow in June followed by his statement in the Lok Sabha provide ample testimony of India's refusal to presence [as published] of Soviet troops in Afghanistan. At the Nonaligned Soviet Ministers Conference at Delhi in February this year, there was a close proximity between the Indian and Pakistani positions on the need for a political settlement. Does not Mr Shahi's statement amount to judgment being prejudiced by traditional conditioned reflexes?

A: We cannot overlook the fact that India and the Soviet Union are bound together by the treaty of August 1971, which, before the end of that year, resulted in the Indian invasion of east Pakistan. Military cooperation between India and the Soviet Union is a continuous process. With Soviet help, India has built up an enormous military potential and the new acquisitions of Soviet weaponry for the Indian Armed Forces, already contracted for, would induct more sophisticated military equipment estimated to be worth about \$8 to 10 billion in terms of Western prices. This would be in addition to the annual Indian capacity for indigenous production worth about \$2.5 billion. The question naturally poses itself to our people as to why this heavy armament program is undertaken by India, which faces no threat whatsoever from any of its neighbors.

With the past experience of Indian forces becoming instrumental in the dismemberment of Pakistan, the continuing hostility toward Pakistan reflected in Indian official and media comments, and the Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan, the thought of a two-front situation naturally occurs to our people.

Your reference to India's refusal to endorse the Asian security plan is somewhat academical, whereas the Indo-Soviet treaty of 1971 is a fact. Similarly, India's stand on the issue of Soviet troops in Afghanistan has, forgive me for saying, given an impression of equivocation. The lasting impression is that as between India's commitment to the principles of nonalignment and the obligations it has assumed toward the Soviet Union under the bilateral treaty, the pragmatist approach has prevailed over the principled stand. We feel that at the Nonaligned Movement [NAM] Conference held at New Delhi recently our endeavors to keep the Nonaligned Movement on its true course saved much embarrassment to India. So let us not talk about conditioned reflexes.

Q: On Afghanistan, the United States does not appear to be aiming at the withdrawal of the Soviet troops as much as to subject the Russians to mounting politico-military costs. Even though Pakistan has a perfectly valid right, in exercise of its national sovereignty, to align with the American objectives, it cannot but result in jeopardizing the security of the entire subcontinent. The Soviets have undoubtedly landed themselves in a political disaster in Afghanistan, but militarily it is no more than a stalemate in which the Soviets cannot be forced to leave in the face of the pressure of insurgency, no matter whatever the quantity and nature of sophisticated arms supplied to the rebels by the United States, that is, if Pakistan agrees to serve as a conduit. So far Pakistan has declined to assume this role. In this context the first priority should be to secure the withdrawal of the Soviet troops. If that becomes secondary to the exigencies of U.S. global strategy, then this region may be faced with a fait accompli.

A: This question has a marvellously twisted mosaic. The pattern is distorted because the lines are infirm. I would not like here to pass judgment on the United States' aims, whatever they may be, but must reject immediately and with all the emphasis at my command the suggestion that there is any propensity on our part to align ourselves with the objectives of U.S. policies.

I must also firmly repudiate the suggestion that the acquisition of arms by Pakistan from the United States will turn Pakistan into a conduit for American arms for the Afghan mujahedin. Pakistan under no circumstances will allow itself to be such a conduit. It has, however, every right to strengthen its defense capability when it is faced with a difficult situation. Pakistan wishes to acquire urgently needed defense equipment by purchasing it from the United States, which is a traditional source for such shopping. The size of our purchases is obviously limited by the size of the resources at our disposal, which bear no comparison with those of India. The mere prospect of Pakistan's being able, after years of deprivation, to replace some of its obsolete defense equipment should not have caused the hue and cry in India which it has. A strong Pakistan both in terms of economic well-being and defense capability should be viewed as an asset by India, if all the good intentions you attribute to India are genuine.

One wrong assumption has led to another wrong assumption, that Pakistan may be jeopardizing the security of the entire subcontinent. A more pertinent observation would be whether or not the intrusion of Soviet military power in our region, indirectly in the dismemberment of Pakistan in 1971 and directly in the subversion of Afghanistan's independent and nonaligned status by the Soviet military intervention, are not the main factors in jeopardizing the security of the subcontinent. Is it also not pertinent to ask whether India would not have been in a stronger moral position to pronounce unequivocally on the Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan if it had not introduced its armed forces in east Pakistan under cover of the bilateral Indo-Soviet Treaty of Friendship of 1971? Pakistan contemplates no such treaty with the United States. It has made it quite clear that any development in its relations with the United States must be compatible with its independent nonaligned status and membership of the Islamic Conference. Pakistan is certainly not entering into a military-aid relationship with the United States and there is no question of its giving bases on its territory to the United States. One of the imperatives of our foreign policy is never to get ourselves involved in any way whatsoever in the rivalry of the superpowers.

I regret to say that such generalizations show a remarkable twist of the imagination. I have already answered the main question in regard to our policy toward Afghanistan in reply to an earlier question by you. We oppose the Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan on the basis of principles, and certainly not by military means--which is not even conceivable. We have good relations with the Soviet Union and wish to develop them further. The Afghanistan crisis is not of our making and constitutes an aberration in our relations with the Soviet Union which we hope would be corrected in due course by the logic of events. We have even the beginnings of a dialogue with the Soviet Union on the question of Afghanistan in which the UN Secretary General is involved through his personal representative.

I agree with you that the first priority should be to secure the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan. I have already stated in an earlier reply that the highest priority in our search for a negotiated settlement of the Afghanistan crisis is to bring this about.

Q: Pakistan undoubtedly has the right to seek arms from the United States or anywhere else--so has India. But when all that has been said, the question still remains that security encompasses a lot more than collection of arms and ammunition. The point to appreciate is that India and Pakistan are natural partners in the geostrategic sense.

A: I am glad that you appreciate that both Pakistan and India have an equal right as sovereign states to acquire military supplies from whatever source they consider necessary for their defense. If you look at the record this has been precisely our position. What we do not understand is why India wants to deny this right to Pakistan. This reflects an adversary perception of Pakistan on India's part which contradicts your statement that the two countries are natural partners in a geostrategic sense. If the logic of your statement should find greater acceptance in India things would be far better in the subcontinent. Unfortunately statements continue to come forth from your country which do not contribute to the process of confidence-building which is so necessary if our countries and peoples are to coexist as good neighbors.

Q: Pakistan is an important littoral state of the Indian Ocean. From that point of view how do you view the U.S. buildup in the Diego Garcia and the Soviet naval presence in the Indian Ocean? Would not the superpower rivalry in this region get further accentuated as a result of the U.S. bid for "strategic consensus"?

A: Pakistan's policy on the Indian Ocean as a zone of peace has been clearly enunciated and reiterated at the United Nations. There are two essential ingredients of the policy: Firstly, all great power rivalry must be eliminated from this area and, secondly, the littoral states must simultaneously evolve a regime which would ensure the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of the littoral and hinterland states and ensure that no one state acquires a status of hegemony in the area. Within this framework there is no place for a U.S. bid for a "strategic consensus" nor for Soviet naval presence in the Indian Ocean.

Q: Last year when President Carter rushed to offer aid to Pakistan, Your Excellency had expressed Pakistan's reluctance to accept it without careful consideration of what it involved so that your "national interests do not get violated by, or are not in conflict with the U.S. interest." Are you now satisfied on this count?

A: We subjected (last year's) offer to careful scrutiny and found it wanting both in credibility and durability. The Reagan Administration has made a new offer which is an improvement, and is being equally carefully examined. As I have said earlier, our acceptance or rejection of it would depend on whether or not we consider it to be supportive (or disruptive) of our independent nonaligned status and our membership of the Islamic Conference.

Q: Whatever role has been earmarked for Pakistan by the United States in its objective of building up a "strategic consensus" in the Gulf region, there can be no doubt that the determining factor will be the global strategy of the United States in suppression of whatever objectives Pakistan might have in opting to join this arrangement. A number of U.S. strategists have openly discussed the possibility that the United States might have to physically intervene in the Gulf even though the countries of the region have refused to acquiesce in this concept. The other U.S. interest is to have home port facilities in the region, possibly in Pakistan. What happens if the United States seeks from Pakistan some quid pro quo which is not consistent with your membership of the Nonaligned Movement?

A: Your concern about the U.S. objective of including Pakistan in a strategic consensus in the Gulf region, or seeking home port facilities in Pakistan, has been a recurring theme of your questions. This should not be so. I have repeatedly stated that Pakistan is a signatory of the Mecca Declaration which rules out its participation in any strategic consensus of the kind you speak of. I would reiterate this position once again and reaffirm that the question does not arise of our conceding any bases to the United States since that would be inconsistent with our membership of the Nonaligned Movement.

Q: The U.S. loans for purchase of arms are going to add substantially to Pakistan's national debt liability. At the close of last fiscal year it stood at around \$10 billion. In 1979 U.S. refusal to accommodate Pakistan on debt rescheduling created a situation where the inflow of fresh foreign aid was around \$800 million and the outflow was \$720 million resulting in a serious economic crisis for Pakistan. Now the pressure has eased because the United States is interested in accommodating Pakistan. But if Pakistan falls out of step with the United States the 1979 situations can be recreated. Does this not introduce an element of uncertainty for Pakistan?

A: While it is true that Pakistan, like many other developing countries, faces an enormous economic problem on account of servicing of its debts, there are a number of unacceptable and fallacious premises on which this question is based. The entire discussion between the United States and Pakistan centers around the principles on which a bilateral relationship is going to be built. If, as I have said elsewhere, the United States accepts and indeed shows respect for Pakistan's policy of nonalignment and for its commitments to the Islamic world, the United States cannot expect that Pakistan will form part of what is called the "strategic consensus."

The NAM and the OIC [Islamic Conference Organization] are dedicated to evolving common grounds between their members which steer clear of superpower rivalries. The governments of the United States and Pakistan have both indicated that clearly defined perceptions must constitute the basis for their relationship so that room for uncertainty is eliminated as far as possible. We do not therefore anticipate the kind of situation that you envision.

Q: The Simla Agreement was evolved to deal with the aftermath of the 1971 war. In doing that, it worked out a framework for the normalization of bilateral relations. Meanwhile, there are new developments which require a much larger framework of cooperation between the two countries if they are not to drift apart down the slippery path of antagonism. Your comments please?

A: I feel that the Simla Agreement provided an adequate and a comprehensive framework for the normalization of Indo-Pakistan relations. This agreement has worked satisfactorily over the past 8 or 9 years and should continue to guide our efforts to bring the two countries closer together. It is not clear what you mean by a larger framework. If we could implement all the provisions of the Simla Agreement in letter and in spirit, that itself would ensure permanent peace and friendship between our two countries. It is premature to talk of a larger framework when the existing framework has yet to reach fulfilment.

Q: Thirty-four years after partition, India and Pakistan have neither a cause nor an issue which should keep them in conflict with each other. But certain emotional hangups are still operating. What can be done by the governments of the two countries so that they build up mutual confidence and dispel each other apprehensions?

A: The Simla Agreement, for which Prime Minister Indira Gandhi must take full credit, rules out war as a means for settling disputes between Pakistan and India. Both countries are committed under this agreement to seek peaceful settlement of outstanding issues. Emotional hangups are prolonged and mistrust and suspicions are kept alive by the continuing lack of a mutually satisfactory settlement of divisive issues. Such a situation lends itself also to political exploitation by interested parties.

While the process of dialogue between our two countries continues, it is best in my view that the two sides eschew statements which deliberately create a sense of crisis. On the positive side, the atmosphere of relations between the two countries would be greatly improved if India adopts a rational attitude toward Pakistan's legitimate efforts to acquire a defense capability commensurate with the developing threats to its security. Pakistan is the smaller country and has neither the desire nor the capacity to build a military strength in competition or rivalry with India. India should realize that even if our current talks with the United States yield the maximum expected results, Pakistan in the course of the next 5 years would have acquired a limited defense capability through purchases only, equivalent to 1/5th of India's acquisition of the most modern military equipment in the past 3 years and that which has already been contracted for and will be received in the near future. All this would be in addition to India's vast indigenous production capacity. As against this, the arms embargoes imposed in the past by the United States have severely restricted Pakistan's efforts to acquire any defense equipment from U.S. sources worth mentioning during the past 5 years.

If the factual position of the capabilities and intentions of each country is conveyed accurately and in a forthright manner to its people, we should hear less of the talk of war or prophecies of impending doom. The political leadership as well the media on both sides have a vital role to play in educating public opinion on the right lines. Facts responsibly presented would automatically correct the distorted images seen through the emotional looking glass.

MAJLIS APPROVES BAHONAR APPOINTMENT 5 AUG

GF050921 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 5 Aug 81

[Text] In its open session held this morning, the Majlis endorsed the appointment of Dr Mohammad Javad Bahonar as prime minister. One hundred and thirty members approved the appointment while 14 voted against it. [Words indistinct] the session was attended by a total of 168 deputies.

DEPUTIES' MEETINGS WITH CONSTITUENTS CANCELED

LD041336 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 4 Aug 81

[Text] The Central News Unit reports that the Public Relations Office of the Islamic Consultative Assembly has announced that all scheduled meetings between the deputies of the Islamic Consultative Assembly and their respective constituents have been canceled as of today.

FRG AMBASSADOR SUMMONED TO EXPLAIN ATTACKS

LD042107 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 4 Aug 81

[Text] According to the Central News Unit, the Public Relations Office of the Foreign Ministry of the Islamic Republic of Iran announced that this morning the FRG ambassador was summoned to the Foreign Ministry to explain the recent attacks by mercenary agents of imperialism on the Islamic Republic Embassy in Bonn and the consulate in West Berlin as well as the attack on the mosque in Hamburg. In this connection, a formal note seeking the names of those arrested by the German police was handed over.

According to this report, in the course of their attacks, agents of mercenary minigroups destroyed all the equipment of the Iranian Embassy and Consulate, causing considerable damage. An interesting point noticeable in these attacks is the West German police's delay in arriving at the scene of the incident. It ought to be mentioned that the matter is under investigation by the Foreign Ministry and the necessary measures taken in this regard will subsequently be made known to the heroic Iranian nation.

In a separate statement, the Public Relations Office of the Foreign Ministry announced that the attackers involved in the incident in the Iranian Consulate in West Berlin had removed from the walls sheets quoting the Koran and caused considerable damage to the fruits of efforts made by the oppressed masses of the Muslim Iranian nation [as heard], thus proving how prepared the attackers are to resort to any crime or degradation in order to serve U.S. imperialism's interests.

The FRG Government, being dutybound to protect embassies and consulates in its country, should give a suitable and convincing answer to the Islamic Republic Government in connection with these savage attacks and also explain the reason for the delay in the FRG police's arrival at the embassy and the consulate. Otherwise, this attitude by the West German Government and its police would indicate its inability to protect foreign missions, in which case the Islamic Republic of Iran's Government declares that the responsibility for similar attacks and their inevitable consequences should be shouldered by the West German Government.

RAFSANJANI BLAMES BANI-SADR FOR BOMB EXPLOSIONS

LD041324 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 4 Aug 81

[Excerpts] According to the Central News Unit, the Islamic Consultative Assembly held an open session this morning.

During today's open Majlis session, Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani said in a speech: Oh nation of Iran and honorable deputies! As you know full well, yesterday a bomb exploded in front of a hospital on Pasteur Avenue, reports on which you have heard. Another bomb exploded in Kermanshah, in a crowd, the casualties of which you saw. Sometimes a guard, returning from the front, is attacked at home, on the street or while on guard in front of an institute. Sometimes, a Friday imam is attacked, like Hojjat ol-Eslam Bekhradian in Behbahan who had finished his congregational prayers and was on his way home; or like Hojjat ol-Eslam Daneshju in Kazerun, whose character and popularity and services are known to all.

Mr Bani-Sadr formally said in an interview that forces are active in Iran in order to oust the imam's allies so that the government will automatically fall into the hands of individuals like himself.

That scene that we saw on television last night, that child in the hospital bed, a child who had come for an injection in order to guarantee its future health; and the passerby who went to buy bread, and suddenly a bomb explosion mutilates his body. [sentence as heard] One should think for a moment about the perpetrators of this crime. What are they pursuing? What are they after and with what justification and on what basis do they assert: We are crusaders [khalqi]? Who is this khalq? What is the crime of these people? Those who voted; but after the votes became several, the people were treated thus. [sentence as heard] Those who advised the people during congregational prayers to remain on the scene; the guard who risks his life in the war against the At-Tikriti, as testified by friends or foes; with what justification can one convince the people that these people deserve to be murdered?

This form of blind terrorism that exists in Iran today has never existed anywhere else in the world; not even in Lebanon. Mr Bani-Sadr, who spoke of human rights, freedom and the principle of nonconfrontation for 2 years in Iran, 2 days after escaping from Iran he perpetrates such incidents as a revolutionary act.

Alongside these people, the French Government--which claims to be socialist--accepts them as political sanctuary seekers and places means of disseminating propaganda at their disposal, and the trumpets which proclaim human rights speak of their rights. Truly, this act, these remarks and these claims are not acceptable by an logic, even Mafia and gangster logic.

Of course, the good thing about this matter is that the true nature of this group, which spent 2 years creating a base for opposition among the youths, is revealed, and the future of Iran, the next generation and our society will be rid of these people and their deception; but the bitter consequences are what we now see.

The Majlis speaker added: They may say that this is the answer to those executions. As you know, the executions began after these gentlemen started attacking people with carpet knives, firearms and other weapons, after declaring an armed struggle. Those days, perhaps many people did not believe, and said that these actions and these weapons did not belong to them; these disturbances are not their doing, they are young. [as heard] With the crimes that they committed during these days, the issue became clear. For God's sake, is there a way for our nation other than to rout them decisively and save the lives of the nation? How many times did the revolution courts issue statements and repeatedly say: Return, do not do these things; do not attack, do not create disturbances, engage in political activities. After all this advice, they declared an armed struggle and assassinated people; they showed their true nature and it became an ultimatum to the world, to society and to the families.

I now state that there remains no excuse for our security forces and judiciary to sit back and allow these unarmed pedestrians to be attacked this way on the streets, in the bazaars, in mosques and houses.

MONTAZERI BLAMES 'U.S. AGENTS' FOR EXPLOSION

GF041826 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 4 Aug 81

[Text] Ayatollah Montazeri sent a message to the Kermanshah Friday imam today following the criminal explosion U.S. agents carried out in one of the city squares. He said in his message: The explosion which killed a number of our dear and innocent brothers and sisters clearly demonstrates the (?frustration) of U.S. agents and the despair of the United States itself following its failure to strike at the Islamic revolution. His eminence added: Contrary to its claims about human rights, U.S. imperialism is encouraging rancorous and blind terrorism in Iran. However, our revolutionary Muslim people are alert.

ASSASSINATIONS, ARRESTS, ARSON CONTINUES

Official, Butcher Assassinated

LD041344 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 4 Aug 81

[Text] PARS, citing a spokesman for the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps of Esfahan, reports that at 1730 yesterday engineer Mahdi Hannaninezhad, in charge of social liaison of the Esfahan Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, was shot by two counterrevolutionaries on Esfahan's Ostandari Street. As one of the bullets hit his heart, this combatant of Islam and follower of the Koran achieved the lofty status of martyrdom.

In addition, the blind-spirited hypocrites organization [Mojahedin-e Khalq], which resorts to any crime in the last days of its existence, yesterday threw an explosive device at the shop of a butcher named Bahman Torkaman, on Hamadan Shari'ati Street, and martyred him. The funeral ceremony for the untarnished body of this martyr for freedom will take place this afternoon.

Deputy Escapes Death

LD041312 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 4 Aug 81

[Text] Mr Hasani, a representative of the people of Urumiyeh at the Islamic Consultative Assembly, while on his way to the Islamic Consultative Assembly this morning became a target of an assassination attempt by a group of mercenary agents and foreign hirelings. Fortunately, he was unhurt.

The Central News Unit reports that in this incident Mr Hasani's son, his driver and his guard were wounded. Their condition is also good.

'Armed Bandits' Close Pass

GF041253 Shiraz Domestic Service in Persian 1430 GMT 4 Aug 81

[Text] Eight armed bandits closed the Qanibi pass on the Sarvestan-Kherameh road for 5 hours from 1400 until 1900 yesterday. They took money and belongings from Muslims who had concluded the fast period. The thieves--who have not heard of God--did not limit themselves to armed robbery but also terrorized travelers.

According to our correspondent, eyewitnesses have stressed that the main aim of these counterrevolutionaries was to create terror and instill dissatisfaction among people. According to the same report, Sarvestan's Islamic Revolution Guard Corps is pursuing the bandits.

Road Closed in Firuzabad

GF041255 Shiraz Domestic Service in Persian 1430 GMT 4 Aug 81

[Text] A group of armed bandits has closed the Qir-Khonj road in Firuzabad township and stolen travelers' belongings. The plundering highwaymen fled after they harmed the travelers and before law enforcement agents could arrive. This act took place yesterday. Authorities are continuing their effort to determine the identity of the armed bandits.

Shopowner Hurt in Fire

GF041345 Shiraz Domestic Service in Persian 1430 GMT 4 Aug 81

[Text] Yesterday afternoon, a carpet shop belonging to a faithful Hezbollahi in Shiraz's Vakil mosque was set on fire by two individuals riding motorbikes. The individuals who caused the fire also poured incendiary materials over the body of Mr Seyyed 'Abdolrasul Farshneshan, the owner, while he was asleep in his shop. The same material was poured on the carpets in the shop, and the owner and his carpets were set on fire. The riders escaped.

The owner shouted for help and was immediately assisted by other shopowners in Vakil mosque (and stopped) from being burnt. In the meantime, the two motorbike riders fled in two different directions. One of them was caught by the people. The incident, which caused around 10 million rials in damage to the shop, is being investigated by the Shiraz Islamic revolution Guards Corps.

Explosions in Amol, Mashhad

LD042056 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 4 Aug 81

[Text] According to a Central News Unit report, at 0530 this morning the world oppressors' mercenaries hurled a (Molotov cocktail) at the second floor of the literary movement office in Amol, where for the past few months serious disturbances have taken place. As a result, the building's windows were shattered and part of the roof caved in. Fortunately, no one was hurt.

PARS reported that at 0700 the counterrevolutionary agents hurled two (Molotov) cocktails at the Islamic publicity office in Mashhad, on Imam Reza Street. However, one of them did not go off. The one which did go off shattered the windows of a clothing store next to the building. No one was hurt in this attack.

Mojahedin Arrested

LD050802 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 5 Aug 81

[Text] The commander of the Gilan Islamic Revolution Guards Corps announced in an interview with a Central News Unit correspondent in Rasht that one of the members of the Central Committee of the hypocrites organization [Mojahedin-e Khalq] in Gilan Province, (Amir Sharif Razi)--who had led the assassinations of prominent provincial personalities and of brother Ansare, the martyred governor general of Gilan--has been arrested and is under detention. The guards commander added that evidence and clues obtained show that (Amir Sharif Razi)--who is a native resident of Qom--was personally involved in the assassinations in Gilan.

The commander also said that four other members of the monafeqin organization were also arrested.

According to this report, a number of the important members of the Peykar and the minority [faction of the Feda'iyen-e Khalq] minigroups were also arrested. With the cooperation of the ever-present people of Rasht, a number of hideouts were also discovered.

Tehran Deputy Assassinated

LD050730 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0530 GMT 5 Aug 81

[Text] Dr Hasan Ayat, a deputy from Tehran, was martyred by counterrevolutionaries at 0715 today in front of his house. A Central News Unit correspondent telephoned the wife of the martyr Ayat to ask how the assassination was carried out. She described the incident as follows:

Dr Ayat, when leaving home for the Majlis at 0715, was martyred by his front door by a spray of G-3 bullets from three black-clothed people in a white Mercedes Benz. His driver and one of his guards were injured in the incident and were taken to the hospital.

AFP: BANI-SADR ASSAILS USSR, U.S. INTERVENTION

NC031141 Paris AFP in English 1127 GMT 3 Aug 81

[Text] Paris, 3 Aug (AFP)--Ousted Iranian President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr, granted political asylum here last week, has blamed both American and Soviet "agents" for actively intervening in his country's internal affairs.

The pro-Soviet communist "Tudeh" Party claimed to support Tehran authorities but in fact carried out the orders of Soviet agents, he said here.

In an interview with the QUOTIDIEN newspaper, Bani-Sadr added: "But it is not only the Soviets who have infiltrated Iran, above all there are the Americans. Their agents are manipulating people, including conservative Moslems, and try to influence them so that Iran will be overwhelmed in chaos."

He added: "The American game is to wait for the death of (Iranian spiritual leader Ayatollah Ruhollah) Khomeyni and when the country is so completely weakened that there are no political leaders left, then they (the Americans) will try to fill the vacuum with a strong regime in their pay."

He said that the once formidable armed forces of the shah were in ruins. "Only 20 percent of his air force is left and perhaps 10 percent of the navy. As for the army, I would go as low as zero percent."

OPPOSITION REPORTEDLY HOLDS CONSULTATIONS IN CAIRO

PM041137 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 3 Aug 81 p 1

['Imad ad-Din Adib report: "Important Consultations Between Iranian Opposition Leaders and 'New Shah'; Contact With Bani-Sadr Postponed"]

[Text] Cairo--Intensive contacts have taken place in the past few days between elements of the Iranian opposition supporting the late shah, who are in Cairo to mark the first anniversary of his death last week, and Reza Pahlavi, who appointed himself shah in succession to his father.

ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT has learned that the consultations dealt with four (as published) important topics:

The relations between the Iranian opposition supporting the regime of the late shah and the Iranian opposition inside Iran, particularly the factions of the secular right opposed to the present regime.

Organizing the efforts of the Iranian opposition in Paris, London, Geneva and Cairo and launching a propaganda campaign against the present regime.

A long discussion took place on initiating a dialogue with the last prime minister of the shah's regime (Shapur Bakhtiar), who is now in Paris, to organize opposition against the present regime in Iran. The discussion also dealt with coordinating the efforts of the supporters of a regime to be headed by the new shah with those of Bakhtiar, former Iranian Army Commander General Oveysi, former Iranian Prime Minister--1960 to 1961--'Ali Amini and head of the NIOC under the shah Hasan Nazih.

The possibility of initiating a dialogue with former Iranian President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr, who is now in Paris, was raised, but there was a clear division over this issue. However, it was clear that the general inclination is to postpone any steps in this direction on the grounds that such a move might entail losing the opportunity for a rapprochement with Bakhtiar and his group, who refuse any cooperation with Bani-Sadr and his supporters.

ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT has learned that Mrs 'Ashraf Pahlavi, sister of the late shah, has played a leading role in the holding of these discussions since she has intensified her contacts with these personalities and with proshah businessmen in order to coordinate the efforts to restore unity to Iran under the leadership of Reza Pahlavi, Jr, according to one of the participants in the discussions.

It was learned that some of those who attended the discussions proposed an idea which is still under consideration: to call for the establishment of a constitutional regime in which the shah will be above the parties. The call is to be made on the grounds that the return of Reza Pahlavi to the country would mean the return of democracy, as happened in Spain following the return of Juan Carlos to the throne after General Franco's death.

AMBASSADOR TO KUWAIT ARDAKANI REPORTED MISSING

JN050820 Paris AL-MUSTAQBAL in Arabic 1 Aug 81 p 10

[Text] Iranian Ambassador to Kuwait 'Ali Shams Ardakani has suddenly disappeared in the wake of Bani-Sadr's escape. It is known that the ambassador was one of Bani-Sadr's friends and a candidate for the Foreign Ministry portfolio.

CLANDESTINE RADIO FORESEES PURGE OF AIR FORCE

GF041435 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1500 GMT 3 Aug 81

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] Compatriots: Sheykh 'Ali Akbar Rafsanjani, one of the vagabonds who under the auspices of theocratic rule have obtained absolute power and are riding their horses in ruined Iran like Mongols, has warned that the air force must be purged. Sheykh Rafsanjani, the temporary Friday imam and speaker of the Majlis of mullahs, is one of the main pillars in the regime of mullahs. In most cases the views of this shark-like sheykh reflect those of Khomeyni and are the forerunner of new events and an increase in the wave of murder and cruelty. We must, therefore, assume that the mullahs have new dreams for our brothers in the air force. It will not be long before they begin a barbaric attack to destroy the officers, NCO's and soldiers of the air force. Clawing at the armed forces, and especially the Iranian Air Force, shows the hatred that the mullahs can neither hide nor show.

We in the Free Voice of Iran said that the escape of Bani-Sadr and Rajavi, irrespective of all other matters, is a clear indication of the situation in Iran and of the lack of a real government in the country. At a time when the regime of mullahs had mobilized all its forces to capture Bani-Sadr and Rajavi [words indistinct] with fewer problems than ordinary passengers boarded an army aircraft in the nation's heartland and flew across the border.

Several days prior to this, an air force officer flying a Boeing 707 fled Iran just as easily and landed in Cairo. Now the regime of mullahs wants to react to these events. Its reaction could not be anything but another attack on the air force and possibly on all the armed forces.

As they have promised, they will resort to purges. The meaning of purge in all dictatorships is clear: Actions by cruel interrogators seeking information, formation of courts to review people's beliefs, arrest, dismissals, murder and destruction.

Our country, Iran, up to the day that Khomeyni's blight arrived in this country, enjoyed the most powerful air force in the area. This well-equipped and capable force which had been built up over many years at great expense and with great effort fell intact into the hands of the conman Khomeyni and his destructive followers. The society of mourners, candle thieves, gravediggers and professional funeral chanters who did not even know the abc's of government did with our air force what they had done with all other organizations in the country. During the 2 and 1/2 years of the reign of the mullahs, the Iranian Air Force has reached a dreadful state, both in terms of manpower and equipment and technology. The agents of the Mullahs' government who do not accept present-day knowledge or give any consideration to specialization and experience made a toy of the future of the (?spare parts) supply of the air force and also resorted to periodic eradication of its technical and trained personnel.

At the beginning of Khomeyni's Islamic Republic, the air force, like all the rest of the military organizations, came under attack by murderers and plunderers. The plundering bunch stole everything, from complete aircraft to communication equipment and ammunition--anything they could lay their hands on--from the air force bases. The governing body also gave trained personnel and the generals of the air force to Khalkhali's slaughterhouse, in their words to be "purged." Some time later when the matter of hostage taking showed up and a number of U.S. helicopters and aircraft infiltrated Iranian airspace at night, the Khomeyni regime again accused the air force of cooperating with the United States, and another purge began.

The Iranian Air Force suffered the wrath of the coalition government of the mullahs and communists a third time. This time it again lost a number of its best personnel.

Now the leaders of the regime are talking about a new purge in the air force since, according to them, the Iranian Air Force is not a reliable organization. A reliable organization from the point of view of the rulers of the Islamic Republic is a cemetery; an organization with personnel who put up with any hardship, like slaves, and offer absolute obedience; an organization where understanding, thought and aims have no place; an organization where those educated in the biggest universities and specialized schools forget where and when they live and learn how to use a ewer in the toilet or how to make love to camels and mules.

Black governments such as the one known as the Islamic Republic consider the first and last solution to all matters to be cruelty. Cruelty, as history shows, has not only never cured anything but has always bred more cruelty and violence.

The organizers of the Islamic Republic, had they enjoyed a minimum of understanding, would have asked themselves why Iranian pilots face death happily to escape their own country. Why is it that everyone resorts to any means to leave the Islamic Republic and outside it experience freedom? If the Islamic Republic removes all the barriers it has created to travel, it will see the extent of the people's desire to escape the hell that has been created under the name of Islam and in the hands of a bunch of mullahs who are total strangers to religion.

The purge of the air force will change nothing. The resistance exists within the air force, in the ground forces, in the navy, in schools, in the bazaars, in offices and factories, and generally in the depth of the being of millions of Iranians.

To achieve a "trustworthy" society they would have to purge millions of Iranians, and the nation will not give you that chance. The officers, NCO's and soldiers of the Iranian Armed Forces will not submit to you with their hands tied. Each one of them--before you put handcuffs and blindfolds on them and put them in front of the firing squad--will kill a few mercenary guards, ruffian Hezbollahis and conman mullahs, thus cleansing the Iranian soil of the filth of their being.

The Iranian nation and the nationalist armed forces will send you and your inauspicious hopes to the grave, as it has done before with all the cruel ones who plundered this nation for a while.

Long live Iran! Long live the Iranian nation! Death to the cruel and antinationalist regime of Khomeyni!

NVOI WARNS AGAINST CREATION OF DICTATORSHIP

TA041721 (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1730 GMT 3 Aug 81

[Unattributed commentary: "Monopoly-Seeking and Self-Interest Should Be Nipped in the Bud"]

[Text] Dear compatriots: Amid conditions in which the liberated Iranian people are struggling to promote and deepen their popular and anti-imperialist revolution by enduring any deprivation with self-sacrifice, regretfully certain individuals under various pretexts, whether willingly or unwillingly, strive under the guise of Islam to divide the forces of our society, to divert the revolution from its popular and anti-imperialist course and to deprive it of the support and backing of the progressive world and the true revolutionary forces.

One of the worn-out weapons used by the puppet administration of the accursed Mohammad Reza to divert the people from paying attention to the principle enemies, imperialism led by U.S. imperialism, was the alleged danger from communism and socialist countries. This, regrettably, is also being extensively exploited by authorities today. It is a cause of deep regret that currently in our country some authorities, contrary to the demand and inclination of the people and irrespective of our country's interests and benefits, are striving to transform anti-Soviet policy into state policy, and with complete unfairness are placing imperialism and socialism, the United States and the Soviet Union on the same level. There is no need for further explanation that placing the enemy and friend on the same level, by any official or authority, is an unforgivable sin, and the people of our homeland will ultimately suffer the consequences of these unwise deeds. Through the experience of many years the people have felt and are feeling both the hostility of imperialism, led by the United States, and the friendship of socialist countries, led by the Soviet Union, on all their beings.

The Iranian revolution was staged and led to fruition by the people of our homeland. It was the Iranian people who revolted in order to put an end to monarchy, despotism, dictatorship and the domination of imperialism and its lackeys in our country. Our homeland's people are constantly striving to promote the revolution toward the development of freedom and democracy and toward the eradication of any traces of despotism, dictatorship and exploitation. The people demand that freedom and democracy be established in our country in the true sense of the word, and that all people's forces, irrespective of their political, ideological and religious beliefs, have the chance to operate freely within the framework of the imam's and the revolution's popular and anti-imperialist line. Those who by taking advantage of the people's confidence and by exploiting their positions strive, under various pretexts, to purport that the revolution is only the result of their own attempts and who seek to monopolize its achievements, whether willingly or unwillingly, are actually diverting the revolution from its true popular and anti-imperialist course. The continuation of such a course, under any pretext and guise, will lead to the establishment of dictatorship, and this is the very thing which ultimately will lead to the imposition of despotism in our country.

The revolutionary Iranian people, who have been tempered in the furnace of the antidespotic and anti-imperialist struggles, can no longer be forced to succumb to despotism and obedience. It is incumbent on officials of the Islamic Republic of Iran to nip in the bud any mentality of monopoly seeking and self-interest in any individual or official. As there is no place for the domination of imperialism in revolutionary Iran, so too there can be no place for self-interest.

Revolutionary Iran is not an island that can be separated from the world and which does not need the support of friends in the face of the plots of the enemies. The people of our homeland view their friends as being the liberation movement of nations, the progressive movement of laborers and toilers, the socialist countries, and above all the Soviet Union. Incidentally, this is the very point that has alarmed the foes of our nation. Therefore, by resorting to any trick and ruse, imperialism is striving to separate our country from such true friends. Those who have fallen into the trap of imperialist plots and are taking steps toward this end, willingly or unwillingly, are undermining the revolution. Facts should be recognized properly and correctly, and friends should be treated as friends and enemies as enemies.

NVOI DEPLORES ANTI-SOVIET ACTS OF AUTHORITIES

TA050719 (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1730 GMT 4 Aug 81

[Unattributed commentary: "The Unpleasant Consequences of Diversionsary Slogans"]

[Text] Dear compatriots: If we pay careful attention to our homeland's events, we will see that certain hands and groups are constantly striving to divert the nation's revolutionary forces from devoting attention to the principle and real enemy, imperialism led by U.S. imperialism, by raising diversionsary and self-invented slogans, thus, seeking to save U.S. imperialism from the damage of the blows of the decisive struggles of the Iranian nation.

The inventors of these slogans do not consider or do not want to consider the fact that every slogan should be prepared according to the spirit of the time and the interests of the Iranian nation and revolution. There is no doubt that the Iranian nation is at war with U.S. imperialism and is locked in combat with it. Therefore, the principle slogan of our nation's struggle is the very slogan "Death to U.S. imperialism." At this juncture when our homeland's revolutionary and aware people are determining current political slogans in conformity with the spirit of their struggle and with astuteness and creativity, the enemies of the Iranian revolution who purport to be Muslims are taking the greatest advantage of this situation and are exerting their efforts to concoct imaginary enemies for the Iranian revolution and to deprive the Iranian nation of the backing and support of its true friends in the international arena.

It should not be left unsaid that there are certain government figures who under the influence of Maoist ideas and by pursuing the theory of Mao's so-called paper tiger are striving to impress upon the Iranian people that the number one enemy of the Iranian nation is not U.S. imperialism. Of course, these gentlemen are not able to deceive the alert and proud Iranian nation--which has been tempered in the furnace of political and anti-imperialist struggles--by these tricks. As events have shown, these gentlemen, by resorting to a series of illusions fabricated by imperialist mass media, want to concoct imaginary enemies for Iran. It is to achieve this aim that they raise the issue of the two superpowers or the problem of "Neither East nor West" which was raised by Mr Qotbzadeh for a long time and which resulted in disgrace. With complete unfairness they place the East and the West, vis-a-vis the Iranian revolution, on the same level.

Our homeland's people, from the very first days of their revolutionary struggles, and especially in the course of the popular and anti-imperialist revolution and following the revolution's victory, had observed and continue to observe in practice the unsparing support and backing of the Eastern countries, the socialist countries and above all the Soviet Union.

The regrettable thing is that government figures and officials of our Islamic Republic not only do not prevent the ugly deeds of the opportunists and the enemies of the Iranian revolution, but knowingly or unknowingly and on the basis of superficiality and monopoly seeking, they let these elements have a free hand in continuing these ugly deeds. The consequence of such methods and tolerance is that an ignorant and misled group, or possibly hooligans and thugs, under the impact of these intimations, damaged the graves of Soviet soldiers in Tabriz and insulted the souls of the martyrs of a nation, even contrary to the Islamic religion, principles and mores.

The Iranian people condemn such ugly and disagreeable acts which without doubt are carried out by filthy hands and by the instigation of Savakist thugs and the mercenaries of the CIA. The Iranian people recognize their friends and enemies quite well and inevitably expect government officials not to allow a certain group to intentionally and purposely disturb the situation in the country. Revolutionary Iran is in need of the support and backing of its true friends in the international arena, and our homeland's people rightly count socialist countries and the Soviet Union as such friends. Those who either knowingly or unknowingly strive to separate Iran from these friends, willingly or unwillingly are aiding the enemies of Iran and the Iranian revolution.

JOINT STAFF COMMUNIQUE 592 REPORTS ON FIGHTING

LD041820 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 4 Aug 81

[Communique 592 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. Dear Muslim compatriots of Iran: Effort and self-sacrifices of brave combatants of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran for defeat and destruction of Saddam's invading armed forces, and the situation on the battlefronts during the past 24 hours, are brought to your attention as follows:

On one of the fronts west of Dezful, indefatigable combatants of the ground forces brought enemy positions under intense and repeated fire, and while stopping enemy artillery and heavy-weapon fire, they killed or wounded more than 15 enemy personnel in the meantime. As a result of fire from our forces, two tanks, one rocket launcher and one enemy ammunition depot were set on fire and destroyed.

Yesterday, exchange of artillery and heavy-weapon fire continued on the Mahshahr, Abadan, Darkhovin, As-Sulaymaniyah and Khuninshahr fronts. On the Abadan and Khuninshahr fronts, the enemy suffered the following losses and damages: destruction of 2 tanks and personnel carriers, 8 ammunition depots, more than 15 trenches and foxholes, 7 trenches for machineguns and submachineguns, 2 tankers, 3 106-mm guns, mortars and 1 personnel carrier. Oil installations and (Ziadiyah) inside Iraqi territory, came under artillery fire from our forces and were set on fire.

Brave combatants of the Police of the Islamic Republic of Iran, who are sacrificing their lives side by side other warriors of Islam and are fighting with all their power to destroy the disintegrating enemy, during yesterday's operations founded enemy positions on the other side of the Arvand Rud [Shatt al-'Arab] destroying several weapon emplacements, observation posts and personnel of Saddam's forces.

During the past 24 hours, the same as in previous days, Abadan came under enemy artillery and mortar fire and as a result several residential houses and part of the oil installations were damaged.

Yesterday sporadic exchanges of fire continued on the Ahvaz and Susangerd fronts between our forces and the enemy.

During artillery and heavy-weapon fire exchanges between our forces and the enemy on the Marivan front, several enemy trenches and positions were destroyed and several of their forces were killed.

Also, one motorized enemy column, (?comprising) 10 trucks, in the region of Panjwin, came under the artillery fire of combatants of the ground forces and while preventing movement of this column and its dispersion, 25 crewmen were killed and around 40 of them were wounded.

Exchange of artillery and other weapon fire continued on other western fronts.

Yesterday two Iraqi invading fighters tried to violate the airspace of several border cities in the south of the country, but were forced to flee by our surface-to-air defense fire.

During battles on 1 August, 14 self-sacrificing personnel of the ground forces gained the honor of martyrdom while defending the honor and prestige of Islam and their dear homeland.

[Signed] The joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

IRAQI WATER INSTALLATIONS, COMMAND BASE DESTROYED

LD010940 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 1 Aug 81

[Text] According to the latest reports received last night from the country's western fronts, following their glorious battle the combatants of Islam killed 71 Saddamists and wounded 10 others.

PARS reports that the combative forces of Islam killed 35 Saddamists on the Mehran, Dehloran and (Tang-e Mina) fronts and their artillery and mortar fire destroyed one gun, three trenches, three vehicles, three mortars and four ammunition dumps of the enemy.

On the Sumar and (Kaleh Ju) fronts the forces of Islam killed eight Saddamists, and they destroyed one vehicle, one mechanical digger and three trenches of the enemy on the Sumar, Zeleh Zard and the Dara heights fronts.

On the Bazi Deraz Kur-e Mush, Sayyid Sadiq and (Kolaynah) fronts, the forces of Islam, using their artillery, killed 28 Saddamists and wounded 10 others. In these operations, the forces of Islam destroyed the enemy's water installations and command base and set fire to and destroyed seven foxholes and trenches, one ambulance, one gun, two mortars and three ammunition dumps of the enemy forces.

Yesterday, on one of the country's western fronts, five Iraqi soldiers surrendered to the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, seeking asylum.

PARS LISTS IRAQI LOSSES ON SOUTHERN FRONTS

LD011027 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 1 Aug 81

[Text] A PARS correspondent reports from Abadan that yesterday the aggressive enemy's positions in (Waseliyah), Saybah and the Al-Faw-Basra axis situated on the other side of the Arvand Rud inside Iraqi territory came under the intense artillery fire of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran. One tank, one BNP personnel carrier, two vehicles, three ammunition dumps, five trenches, one concrete bunker and three foxholes of the enemy were destroyed and several Iraqi Ba'thist infidels were killed.

According to this report, yesterday sporadic exchange of artillery fire between the forces of Islam and Saddam's forces of blasphemy took place on the fronts of Abadan and Khuninshahr. Four vehicles, 1 82-mm mortar, 1 heavy machinegun emplacement, 2 ammunition dumps, 8 foxholes and trenches and 2 observation posts of the enemy in the occupied zone in Khuninshahr and in the vicinities of the Abadan pasteurized milk factories were destroyed and at least 30 blasphemous saddamists were killed or wounded by the fire of the brave combatants of Islam.

This report cites the spokesman for the Abadan relief and treatment headquarters, saying: During yesterday's battles 15 combatants of Islam were wounded; they have been hospitalized.

GOVERNMENT TO PURCHASE, DISTRIBUTE RICE CROP

LD022032 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 2 Aug 81

[Statement issued by the economic mobilization headquarters on the approval of the bill for purchasing and distributing this year's rice harvest]

[Text] In order to tie the hands of middlemen and profiteers in the rice trade, who in previous years purchased the toiling farmers' rice harvest in advance and at low prices--a practice which was unfair to the toiling and productive classes of the rural areas--and in order to prevent the repeated sale and resale of rice, which used to bring several billion tomans of profit to a few people while increasing the price of one of the most essential and basic commodities for millions of consumers throughout the country, the country's economic mobilization headquarters has approved the bill for the purchase and distribution of rice by the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development and the Ministry of Commerce.

On the basis of this bill, the Central Bank has allocated credit to purchase the 21 March 1981 to 21 March 1982 harvest from farmers in the Provinces of Gilan and Mazandaran. The credit has been placed at the disposal of the Commerce and Agriculture Ministries. Therefore, considering the fact that the price of domestic rice has been increased in order to subsidize and support rice farmers and in order to create an incentive for more rice production, all of the economic mobilization headquarters committees concerned with purchasing rice in Gilan and Mazandaran Provinces as well as the commercial services development company have begun buying this year's rice harvest. The rice will be distributed among the retail guild units, cooperative units and other consumers throughout the country at prices fixed by the government.

Therefore, the country's economic mobilization headquarters calls upon all dear farmers in the Provinces of Gilan and Mazandaran to store their rice for home consumption and sell the surplus to government agents through village cooperative units, for the use of the country's consumers. Naturally, in view of the above statement and instructions issued by the economic mobilization headquarters concerning strict control of the movement of rice, the revolution prosecutor's office will take action to punish middlemen, hoarders and other offenders.

[Signed] The economic mobilization headquarters of the country

GOVERNOR OF SHIRAZ RESIGNS; SUCCESSOR APPOINTED

GF041252 Shiraz Domestic Service in Persian 1430 GMT 3 Aug 81

[Text] Fars Governor General Mohammad Nabi Habibi met today with Shiraz Friday Imam Ayatollah Dastgheyb. During the meeting, the Fars governor general introduced Mohammad 'Ali Entezar-Mahdi as the new governor of Shiraz. He will serve as Shiraz governor while retaining his post as general director of rural cooperatives.

The former governor of Shiraz has resigned for reasons of health.